

JOHNSON - Appln. No. 08/389,399

B1
means fixed at a distal end of the rod, and projecting outwardly in opposing directions from the rod in a single planar relationship, for engaging the interior wall of the cortical bone when said rod is inserted within the canal so as to center the rod relative to the wall.

Cancel Claim 2.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "2" and substitute --1--.

Claim 4, line 2, delete ",1".

Claim 7, line 2, delete "6" and substitute --1 or 3--.

REMARKS

The Examiner continues to reject Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Patent 5,190,548 - Davis. While conceding that the purpose of Davis is far from the use of applicant's device, the Examiner concludes that there are no structural differences brought out in Claim 1.

By this response, Claim 1 has been further amended to overcome the basis for the Examiner's rejection. More particularly, the body of the claim now positively recites that the means which are fixed at the distal end of the rod and which project outwardly to engage the interior wall of the cortical bone --thereby centering the rod within the intramedullary